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**REMARKS
BY
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH DAN MOZENA
WELCOME RECEPTION
U.S. TRADE SHOW
SONARGAON HOTEL, DHAKA
NOVEMBER 16, 2014**

The President of the American Chamber of Commerce Aftab-ul-Islam

The Vice President of AmCham Geoffrey Strong

AmCham Executive Director A. Gafur

... and you who share my belief that American business can help Bangladesh fulfill its vision of creating Sonar Bangla.

Asalaam 'malaikum, nameskar and good evening.

I love trade shows ... they are filled with lots of neat things, clever things, things I don't know anything about.

I love especially the annual US Trade Show right here in Dhaka. It is always a great education for me.

This trade show sends a powerful message of America's trade and investment partnership with Bangladesh.

America and Bangladesh are strong trade and investment partners. Our bilateral trade for the past year was almost \$6.5 billion, and America is the largest market for Bangladeshi exports. I hope America's exports to Bangladesh this year will top \$1 billion, creating about 10,000 jobs in the United States. America is among the biggest investors in Bangladesh and the third largest source of remittances.

All these numbers are impressive ... but they don't tell the whole story.

America's trade and investment partnership pays huge dividends in transferring cutting-edge technology and in exchanging fresh ideas and solutions. I think these people-to-people

connections are extremely important in fostering the bilateral relationship to the benefit of the people of both nations.

Sometimes I am told by my Bangladeshi friends to work harder to bring American technology to Bangladesh. I think these friends have some notion that an American ambassador should walk around in Silicon Valley or New York City with a bucket and shovel and simply scoop up the latest technology and send it to Bangladesh in a big box.

Of course, it doesn't work that way. Technology comes with investment ... look at the wondrous technology ... cutting edge technology ... that has come with the impressive investments by Chevron, ConocoPhillips, GE, Caterpillar and so many others.

Investment truly is the key to bringing the latest technology, the latest ideas, the latest solutions to Bangladesh.

Billions of investment dollars are flowing out of the United States into Asia. These dollars go to those destinations that are most appealing to investors ... to those locations where the return on investment is commensurate with the costs and risks associated with the investment. Important US investments are coming to Bangladesh, but I would like to see American investments here many times greater. I urge the government to consider those measures that would make the investment climate more appealing to would-be investors. I look to the day when billions upon billions of investment dollars flood into Bangladesh from America and elsewhere to help Bangladesh unleash its great wealth in terms of natural and human resources.

The US Trade Show is an important mechanism for telling the Bangladesh story, for showing the world the enormous potential of Bangladesh for expanded two-way trade and for greater investment.

I am so eager to visit the more than 75 booths on exhibit tomorrow at the US Trade Show. This show beautifully manifests the great role that America's private sector plays in partnership with Bangladesh to help the people of this wonderful nation build the Sonar Bangla ... the Golden Bangladesh ... of their dreams.

As I close I wish to thank Chevron for so generously sponsoring this delightful reception. Thanks, Geoff, to you and your entire Chevron team for your generosity.

I hope you enjoy the reception this evening and that you will be back by 10:30 tomorrow morning for the grand opening.

Thank you.

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**As Prepared for delivery*